

Church of St. Thomas More

A Roman Catholic Parish in the Diocese of San Diego

1450 South Melrose Drive
Oceanside, CA 92056
760.758.4100 Phone • 760.758.4165 Fax
www.stmoside.org • parishoffice@stmoside.org



Spirituality † Tradition † Community

Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor
Deacon Thomas A. Goeltz

Office Hours: Monday-Friday
8:30am-12:00 noon and 12:30-4:00pm

Mass Schedule
Saturday at 5:00pm
Sunday at 8:30am and 10:30am
Tuesday-Friday at 8:15am
First Monday of the Month at 7:00pm

Eucharistic Adoration
Monday-Friday, 6:30am-7:30pm

Reconciliation (Confession)
Saturday, 4:00-4:30pm

September 13, 2009 • Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Pastor's Column

Rev. Michael Ratajczak
michaelr@stmoside.org
760-758-4100 x100

Not Every Bad Encounter with a White Person Constitutes Racism *(But as They Add Up, Run-ins Become Harder to See Past)*

My Pastor's Column today is an article written by our Parishioner, May Akabogu-Collins, which appeared in The Christian Science Monitor, on September 3, 2009.

I was about to kick my white neighbor out of my house. Then the memory of my dad's voice intercepted me.

In 1980, when I was coming to America from Nigeria to attend grad school, my father told me, "Not every unpleasant encounter with a Caucasian constitutes racism. It might just be ignorance—stupidity, in fact."

When I arrived at the University of Southern California, the dynamics of black-white politics were still alien. That first semester, I received the highest score on a test. As he handed back

my paper, the professor publicly announced, "You surprised me; I kept slowing down for you, thinking you were lost." A compliment, I thought.

"An insult," said a classmate later. "The professor had presumed you were dumb because you're black." I wasn't convinced. But events moved on. Sometimes preposterously.

A year later, I was walking back to my hotel room in Baltimore when another hotel guest stuck her head out her room and addressed me: "I need extra soap and a towel." I smiled and replied, "Me, too." At that point, she flushed and disappeared. I chalked it up to rational discrimination.

(Continued on page 2)

Did You Know?

The economy continues to play havoc with our Operations Budget. The "Did You Know?" Campaign has helped greatly to "make ends meet." Your continued support is needed. If you are in a situation to do so, please consider a special gift to St. Thomas More with the use of a "Did You Know?" envelope.

Our Mission is to: worship God,

Mass Schedule:

Saturday at 5:00pm; Sunday at 8:30am and 10:30am;
Tuesday-Friday at 8:15am;
first Monday of the month at 7:00pm;
watch bulletin for holydays

Rite of Reconciliation (Confession):

Saturday from 4:00-4:30pm (or by appointment)

Eucharistic Adoration: Monday-Friday from 6:30am-7:30pm

Liturgical Ministry: Contact Douglas Lynn at 758-4100 x140

Music Ministry: Contact Douglas Lynn at 758-4100 x140

Communion for the Homebound/Hospitalized:

Contact Parish Office at 758-4100 x100

Anointing of the Sick: Contact Parish Office

Matrimony:

Contact Parish Office a minimum of nine months in advance

*For further information, call Rev. Michael Ratajczak
at 758-4100 x100 or michaelr@stmoside.org.*

teach and live the Gospel of Jesus Christ,

Inquiry into the Catholic Faith:

First and third Thursday evenings

Religious Education for Youth & Children:

Two times a month, September-May, on Sundays

Religious Education for Adults: Various times, September-May

Liturgy of the Word for Children: 8:30am and 10:30am Masses

Little Rock Scripture Study:

Weekly sessions, morning or evening

High School Youth Ministry: Monday evenings

Middle School Youth Ministry:

Two Monday evenings per month

Preparation for the Sacraments:

Baptism (for infants):

Begins with an appointment with the Pastor

Baptism (7-14 yrs.)/RCIA:

One to two year process with children and parents

Baptism (adults)/RCIA:

One to two year process; weekly sessions

First Reconciliation: In home process begins in Level 1

First Communion:

In home process begins after First Reconciliation

Confirmation: Minimum two year process of preparation; begins in high school

*For further information, call Kathleen Bell
at 758-4100 x110 or kathleenb@stmoside.org.*

and serve God's people in word and deed.

There are many groups who serve our Parishioners
and provide outreach to the local community.

*For further information, see page 10, or call Chris Smith
at 758-4100 x120 or chriss@stmoside.org.*

Pastor's Column *(Continued from page 1)*

Soon after grad school, I arrived at a college for an interview and introduced myself as "Dr. Collins." The secretary replied, "And I'm the president." She later apologized profusely, adding, "You look too young to be a PhD." "It's the melanin," I deadpanned, adding with a wink, "Black don't crack." She cracked up.

Never having been a target of old-fashioned, explicit racism, I still couldn't distinguish between imaginary and real racism. That changed when my sister and I entered a video store in Korea Town in Los Angeles. We were excited to find the Eddie Murphy comedy, "Coming to America." The clerk, without batting an eye, announced unequivocally, "Only Koreans." That was the turning point in my assimilation to my new environment.

For the first time, I felt the frustration of being black in America. "It's an Asian thing," a friend explained later. "They tend to be clannish." For a while I shunned Asians—and consorted with Caucasians.

In Africa we attended the same schools as the Caucasians. There was no built-up animosity and, I suppose, the Caucasians in West Africa never had a reason to draw racial lines or feel superior. Hence, I had no self-consciousness among Caucasians. The O.J. Simpson verdict in 1995, however, changed all that.

I was the only black professor at a small college in Pennsylvania. When I heard my all-white colleagues denouncing the verdict at the department lounge, I stepped outside my office to join them. The lounge immediately went silent. Everyone froze, like a still frame in a movie, and the tableau resonated with the unspoken, "You're black, therefore..." I spun on my heel and fled campus.

I'd spent 15 years in America resisting racializing my feelings, but that incident at the faculty lounge gave me a new pair of glasses.

In San Diego 10 years later, as I was walking my dogs (Akitas) one Monday morning, I encountered an elderly white woman. "They are absolutely gorgeous!" she declared. Before I could thank her, she added, "Are they yours?"

Here's the thing: After 25 years in America, as such encounters accumulate, subconsciously, resentments also accumulate. "Fat chance," I replied, "I'm dog-sitting for a rich white family." And I strode away wondering if I was becoming racially paranoid.

I was still wondering that when my white neighbor knocked on my door that same day. She was having an off day, so she took the day off and came over to vent. "It's like," she began, tears welling. "How can I put it? I feel like I've little black people inside my stomach."

Huh? I'd had three little black people inside my belly and those were the happiest months of my life. So what could I say?

"What do you mean?"

A litany of woes ensued: hubby's worsening Alzheimer's, facing foreclosure, teenage turmoil—my mind strayed.

Black market, black sheep, Black October, Black Sunday, black Monday, black weekend, the blackest day in history (9/11). Granted, those held no racial connotations—they were just terms for bad things.

(Continued on page 4)

Readings for the Week Ahead

Sunday Year B; Weekday Year I
Readings online at www.usccb.org.

Sunday, September 13 (131)

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Isaiah 50:5-9a
Psalm 116:1-6,8-9
James 2:14-18
Mark 8:27-35

Monday, September 14 (638)

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Numbers 21:4b-9
Psalm 78:1-2,34-38
Phillippians 2:6-11
John 3:13-17

Tuesday, September 15 (444)

Our Lady of Sorrows
1 Timothy 3:1-13
Psalm 101:1-3,5-6
Luke 2:33-35

Wednesday, September 16 (445)

Cornelius, pope, martyr, and Cyprian, bishop, martyr
1 Timothy 3:14-16
Psalm 111:1-6
Luke 7:31-35

Thursday, September 17 (446)

1 Timothy 4:12-16
Psalm 111:7-10
Luke 7:36-50

Friday, September 18 (447)

1 Timothy 6:2c-12
Psalm 49:6-10,17-20
Luke 8:1-3

Saturday, September 19 (448)

Januarius, bishop, martyr
1 Timothy 6:13-16
Psalm 100:1b-5
Luke 8:4-15

Sunday, September 20 (134)

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Wisdom 2:12,17-20
Psalm 54:3-8
James 3:16-4:3
Mark 9:30-37

Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 12, 5:00pm
Isabelle Browne ☩

Sunday, September 13, 8:30am
Phyllis Hemmer ☩

Sunday, September 13, 10:30am
Mrs. Frances Esmonde

Monday, September 14, 7:00pm
For the Youth of the Parish

Tuesday, September 15, 8:15am
Thanksgiving for a donated kidney for the Wong's nephew

Wednesday, September 16, 8:15am
Ed Darcy ☩

Thursday, September 17, 8:15am
Josephine Jackson ☩

Friday, September 18, 8:15am
Tom Esmonde ☩
Frank Wittreich ☩

Saturday, September 19, 5:00pm
Jeffrey & Philip Lavelle ☩

Sunday, September 20, 8:30am
Ruth Hannon ☩

Sunday, September 20, 10:30am
Olive Burke ☩

Prayer List

Call 758-4100 x102 to add a name for four weeks.

Mary Alexander
Mary Baker
The Baker Family
Patricia Barbour
Regina Bentz
Beatrice Brooks & Family
Monica Broussard
Janet Brown
The Brown & Santy Families
Ann Buko
Rosanne Burg
Herman Calandro
Shelby Campbell
Claudia Caplinger
Paul Cipowski
James Coleman
Thomas Cornwell & Family
Jean Crowell
Karen Flaharty Daley
Margie Daniels & Family
Cecilia DeSimone
The Divisek Family
Linda Dossman
Christine Dumell
Ann Edmondson
Kathryn Ernst
The Fiore Family
Peggy & Jack Fischer
Ryan Flum
Kathryn Franklin
Carmen Garcia
Joan Gast
Peter Gavin
Bob Godley
Rick Gonzalez
Doris Guilfoil
Anita Hage
Susan Hallahan
Dorothy Hanratty
The Harker Family
Rita Harnacker
Michelle Harrison
Barry Henwood
Cynthia Horner
Sue Johnston
Colleen Kaup
Delores Kelnhofer
Paul Kennedy
Debbie Kinney
George Kleekamp
Sr. Anne Kremenik
Helen Kuhn
Lillian Lachance
The Lamelin Family
Bernie Lanzrath
The Lape Family
Brandon LeBlanc
Cassandra Loretto
Lauren Loretto
James MacArthur
Ken Mauro
Shirley McAllister
Helen McCullough
Tom McGeary
Bob McWilliams

Carol Michael
Carroll Tom & Nona Miller
The Leo Miller Family
Howard Montgomery
Nancy Moore
Margie Myers
R. Northrup
Helen O'Connell
Luci Palmer
Lupe Casas Pelletier
Helen Pingtella
Anne Post
Otila Quiroz
Janet Raiman
The Reynolds Family
Dort Riley
Sr. Loyola Romey
Dorothy Rouse
Rose Rowland
The Russo Family
Nancy Scali
Maurine Shaughnessy
Ed Sox
Gilda Spiegl
Dorothy and Ray Staehr
Janet Sterling
Joan Stringer
Maria Surmenidis
The Treister & Cascino Families
Arnie Velasco
Dominic Vienna, Jr.
Vanessa Vitiello-Koble
Kevin Watson-Graff
Ed Wesel
Marilyn Wesel
John Whitton

Deployed Military

As a faith community let us pray for all who serve our country in these troubled times. We pray especially for those connected to our Parish who have been deployed:

1st Lt. Jeffrey Bauer, USMC
Pfc John Brandone
Capt. Gregory Day, USMC
Lance Corporal Brandon Doyle, USMC
St Sgt Joseph Duffy, USAF
MSGT Steve Gallegos, USMC
Pvt. 2 Jess Phillips, US Army
Julian Torres, USMC
Corporal Jeffery Lee Wilcox, USMC

Thank you for your prayers for Mitchell Gentry, USMC, who has returned home and is recovering from injuries.

All-powerful God, be their constant companion and strength in every adversity. May they experience your faithful presence, gentle love, and compassionate healing.

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Calendar Highlights

Also check the Parish website (www.stmoside.org) for complete calendar information.

The Week Ahead

- Sep 13 Liturgy of the Word for Children at 8:30am Mass
- Sep 13 RE.A.CH Classes start
- Sep 14 Monday Night Mass
- Sep 16-17 Rediscovering Catholicism Begins
- Sep 19 Women's Guild Hawaiian Luncheon
- Sep 20 Knights of Columbus Breakfast
- Sep 20 High School RE.A.CH begins

The Month Ahead

- Sep 26 Altar Server Training
- Sep 27 Liturgy of the Word for Children at 8:30am Mass
- Sep 27 RE.A.CH Classes including High School

The Year Ahead

- Oct 2 Spirited Seniors Hawaiian Luau
- Oct 12 Women's Guild Meeting
- Oct 17-18 Women's Guild Bake Sale
- Oct 18 New Member Reception
- Nov 8 Choral Concert: *Missa Romantica*
- Nov 22 Stewardship Appreciation Reception
- Dec 6 Towers of Faith Reception

Next Year—2010

- April 30 Eleventh Annual Golf Classic
- Aug 22 Second Annual Pastor's Dinner

Welcome to Newly Registered Parishioners

Joshua & Christy Breier & Family
Richard & Lisa Dimler & Family
Maryann Riley

Congratulations to

Lyle & Pat Christopherson

who celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary on September 1.

Bob & Dotty Petruzzo

who celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary on September 8.

May God continue to bless your marriage, and may you be an inspiration to other married couples.

Flower Donations

We would like to gratefully acknowledge the contribution of:

Tom & Pat Hannon

whose generosity helped to defray the cost of flowers last weekend in our liturgical environment.

In Memoriam

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:



Jack Thill, who died recently. Jack is the father of Parishioner John Thill. Jack's Funeral Mass was celebrated on September 11 at St. Mary Star of the Sea in Oceanside. Please keep the family in your prayers.

Leo Miller, who died recently. His Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Friday, September 18, at 1:00pm at St. Thomas More. Please keep Leo's wife Beverley and the family in your prayers.

Vickie Divisek, who died on August 24. Her Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Friday, September 25, at 4:30pm, at St. Thomas More. Please keep Vickie's family in your prayers.

May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Lifeline Screening Comes to St. Thomas More in September

Do your legs ache after walking a short distance? If so, you may want to consider being screened for peripheral arterial disease (PAD), a condition in which the arteries that carry blood to the arms or legs become narrowed or clogged by plaque, slowing or stopping the flow of blood. Life Line Screening will bring this preventive health event that can assess one's risk of PAD through an ankle brachial index (ABI). PAD is closely linked to coronary artery disease, and identifying PAD can also help prevent heart attack and stroke. We are pleased to host a screening on September 28. Register for the stroke, vascular disease, and heart rhythm package for \$149. All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. For more information or to pre-register, call 888-653-6441 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com.

St. Francis and St. Thomas More Offertory Envelopes

Any St. Francis Offertory Envelopes given to the offertory collection at St. Thomas More will be returned to St. Francis.

Any St. Thomas More Offertory Envelopes given to the offertory collection at St. Francis will be returned to St. Thomas More.

Pastor's Column *(Continued from page 2)*

People having a bad day often say they're having a black day. But little black people in her stomach? Why, that's racist! I should just kick her out, I thought. Then I heard my father's voice: "It might just be ignorance...."

"Hel-lo-o?" my neighbor reeled in my attention. "Yeah, I'm listening," I said.

She continued, but my mind kept wandering: Had I just been insulted? Should I demand an apology at least? Or was I becoming one of those "overly sensitive blacks"—you know, the ones who criticized David Howard, a former Washington, D.C., mayoral aide, for saying "niggardly" (which means "miserly") at a budget discussion in 1999?

I still can't, be certain, of course. And I'm still not convinced that kicking my neighbor out would've been wrong. Yet, I'm bothered that my feelings are now colored by race.

I now empathize with blacks born here who, due to the country's history, are sensitive to these issues. But at the same time, I sympathize with the uninformed whites who must watch their language lest they inadvertently offend our sensibilities.

That's where America is. And until whites make the extra effort to understand the source of "black rage," that's where America will remain.

Why didn't I approach my neighbor later to tell her that I felt insulted by her metaphor?

I was afraid she would consider me "overly sensitive," and that it might cause a strain between us. Race discussion is uncomfortable. And that's exactly the problem in America—the lack of trust between blacks and whites and hence the inability to engage in an open and frank discussion about the causes and effects of racism that can clarify our different reactions to the same racial landscape.

As President Obama has said, for America to progress, both blacks and whites must listen to one another with an open mind. Only then can we understand where the other is coming from. Yet it has to come from our hearts. And that requires mutual trust.

Blacks must be able to talk to whites about their fears and resentments without presuming that whites would consider them racially paranoid.

Whites must trust that blacks won't label them racists for expressing their frustrations. This is the way toward a more racially tolerant America. And in order to get there, we must be open with ourselves and compassionate with others.

Until then, these incidents will proceed with black—oops—bleak predictability: Ignorant white says something racially insensitive. Sensitive Negroes overreact. And we're all tired of that broken record.

(If any other Parishioners have published material that they would like to share with the Parish, please pass it on to me for my consideration so that it may become a "Pastor's Column.")

F. Mike

Women's Guild News



Be sure to sign up for our Hawaiian luncheon featuring the Village Hawaiian dancers on Saturday, September 19, at 11:00am. Their many colorful costumes and wide array of dances will be highly entertaining.

We will also feature a guest singer and guitarist. The food is partly catered by Three Sisters and partly by our own board members. It will be a true feast!! Cost is

still only \$7. We must have reservations for this event. Please sign up on the Plaza after Mass or call Valerie Thompson at 760-630-1703 or Elizabeth Remsburg at 760-727-0751.

The next board meeting will be Monday, October 5, at 10:00am at Valerie Thompson's home.

October meeting will be featuring Project Linus and our own quilters.

Spirited Seniors Roast Whole Pig on Plaza for Hawaiian Luau Dinner

Come one, come all! Friday, October 2, at 5:45pm for cocktails, with dinner served at 6:30pm. Mark your calendar now! All St. Thomas More Parishioners and friends are invited. Great Hawaiian music. Catered by Gourmet Rotisserie. Hawaiian dancers by Malia's Makuahines to entertain you for the evening. Refer to the flyer from last week's bulletin for more information or contact Jerry Buoniconti at 760-758-5113.



Knights of Columbus Entertainment Book Fundraiser

The Knights are offering *Entertainment Books* again this year. The books are \$40 each. It will more than pay for itself with great deals on dining out, travel, shopping services, and entertainment. All proceeds go toward supporting St. Thomas More and various charities. See the Knights on the Plaza after most Masses throughout the remainder of 2009 to purchase your book.

Project Linus Coffee

Join us on Thursday, September 24, at 10:00am in the lower level of the Parish Center. The STM Quilters will host this working meeting. You may turn in your blankets for sick/abused children at that time. For more information, contact Mary Coxon at 760-599-8760.

High School Youth Ministry
Kicks off
Monday, September 21 at 7:00pm
Lower Level
MONDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP
Look for your Fall Schedule
(mailed or on parish website) or
Call Gale at 760-726-7236

Fourth Anniversary of Hurricane Katrina

Please remember to pray for our sisters and brothers in New Orleans as they continue to rebuild their lives and homes. The following message was sent to St. Peter Claver for their bulletin.

Dear Sister Parish Friends,

We continue to remember you and your long journey of restoration in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina four years ago. This has been a great challenge to you at every level of your lives.

We are grateful that our lives have crossed in many ways, from Alena Boucree and Fr. Michael's visits to our parish, our Fr. Mike to your parish, and the dear friends many of us made when we came to New Orleans to work side by side with you to rebuild your homes and city.

Your faith and courage are a great witness to us and we pray that this faith will grow ever deeper in the years to come in all of our lives. In the midst of suffering, from you, we learned to say "God is good—all the time. All the time—God is good." And the Church says: "Amen."

With love and support,

Your friends from St. Thomas More Parish
in Oceanside, California

Catholic Widows & Widowers of North County

We are a group of Catholic women and men whose spouses have passed on to another life with God. We meet twice a month, usually on the second and fourth Sundays of the month, plus we have an active calendar of events. For more information, please see the bulletin board in the Parish Office or contact Carol Kope at 760-726-0533.

St. Thomas More Vehicle Donation Program

Do you have a vehicle you want to donate?
Call the Parish Office at
758-4100 x100

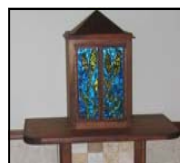


Looking for Information on the Catholic Faith?

Are you interested in learning more about Catholicism, becoming a Catholic, or returning to the Catholic Church after being away? You're invited to Inquiry Sessions, which meet on the first and third Thursdays of each month at 7:00pm at the Parish Center.

For information, call Jim Treat at 760-598-3602.

Eucharistic Adoration



Monday-Friday • 6:30am-7:30pm
Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Exposition of the Eucharist on First Fridays.
Next date: Friday, October 2.

*For more information, contact
the Parish Office at 760-758-4100 x100.*

STM Scrip News

Scrip is sold after weekend Masses and on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:00-10:00am in the Parish Office. For more information, call Theresa Goeltz at 760-453-2876.

Liturgy & Music

Worship God

Douglas Lynn
Director of Music/Coordinator of Liturgical Ministries
douglasl@stmoside.org; 760-758-4100 x140



ORDINARY TIME: AUTUMN

A Sense of the Season

All of our days are numbered. Now that Christ has risen from the dead and ascended into heaven, we count down the days until he returns in glory to judge the living and the dead. Ordinary Time is "ordinal" time: numbered days, days in which we lay out the scriptures and the prayers to bide our time until Christ returns.

Although the church makes no official distinction between the days of Ordinary Time from Pentecost until Advent, in our lives we experience the subtle shift from the relaxed days of summer to the increasingly active days of autumn. For some of us, the shift comes with the end-of-summer holiday or the beginning of school. Others see work activities shift, from tending to harvesting, from stocking shelves to increasing sales, from cashing out an old fiscal year to digging into a new one.

The church's calendar contains some subtle shifts, too. On September 14 we celebrate the Holy Cross, and the waning of the natural world around us points us to the mystery of suffering and redemption. At the end of September we invoke the holy archangels to guard us in the encroaching twilight. And if we listen closely to the scriptures in October, we begin to hear talk of the last days and the final things. These thoughts reach their culmination with the great festival of saints and souls, November 1 and 2.



And we spend November remembering the dead, preparing for the end and celebrating Christ, the firstfruits harvested of the new creation, the firstborn from the dead.

This is the extraordinary opportunity that autumn's Ordinary Time opens up for us.

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Music Ministry Next Week

SEPTEMBER 19/20

5:00pm Mass

Adult Choir

8:30am Mass

Adult Praise Team

10:30am Mass

Handbell Choir

Monday Night Mass

Join us

September 14 at 7:00pm

(Upper Level of the Parish Center)

Bring a case of water or a box of juice bags for
Stand Up for Kids!

This homeless teen day shelter in Oceanside
is in need of both.

For more information
please contact Ron Briseno at
760-758-4100 x153 or ronb@stmoside.org

Music Ministry Opportunities

Monday Night Mass Team

Tuesdays 7:00-8:30pm

Contact Joleen at 760-806-6722

Adult Praise Team

Contact Joleen at 760-806-6722

Handbell Choir

Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30pm, Stage

Contact Douglas at 760-758-4100 x140

Adult Choir

Thursdays, 7:00-9:00pm

Contact Douglas at 760-758-4100 x140

Faith Formation

Teach and Live the Gospel

Kathleen Bell
Director of Faith Formation
kathleenb@stmoside.org; 760-758-4100 x110

Welcome!

Dear Parishioners, especially parents,

Today we begin a new year of religious education at St. Thomas More.

“At the heart of catechesis we find, in essence, a Person, the Person of Jesus of Nazareth.”

(Pope John Paul II)

Whether you are

- a young person beginning the RE.A.CH program,
- a parent entering into partnership with the church catechist,
- or a parishioner becoming involved in Bible Study or our Adult Faith Formation opportunities developing spirituality. . .

it is all about the Person of Jesus.

Jesus questioned his disciples

“Who do you say that I am?”

(Mk 8:29)

Each of us is challenged to respond with clarity and conviction who Jesus is—

for me and for the world.

Our response includes our whole person: body, mind, spirit.

If my faith is not lived on every level of my daily life, there is room to grow.

As we grow in spirituality this year, no matter how young or old we are, may we:

- find new passion in our search to **know Jesus** and his message
- be nourished by the **liturgy and sacraments**
- struggle everyday with the demands of the Gospel in our own **moral formation**
- realize the essential value of **prayer** in our own lives
- **live in genuine community**, at home, school, work, church, neighborhood, world
- learn by doing as we live out the **mission of Jesus** to love and serve others



Keep it simple, live one day at a time. . . the reward? . . . a deeper relationship with the person of Jesus!

With you on the journey,

Kathleen

PBJ Update

(Food for children at the Emergency Crisis Center)

2008 GOAL: 365 jars
Collected to date: **541 jars !**



Today is a **RE.A.CH** day!

9:45-10:20am

**Open House for Parents and PK-8 students
Lower Level**

10:30-11:40 Class for 3, 4, 5 year olds

12:30- 2:00 Class for Levels 1-8

5:00- 6:30 Class for Levels 1-8

High School

Core Courses for Teen Faith Formation begin Sunday, September 20 from 6:30-8:30pm. Core Courses last for five consecutive Sundays.

Re-Discovering Catholicism

A lively and diverse group is forming, and you'll fit right in!

Have you been away from the Church, or just not kept up on current teaching, or would like a refresher course, or a community of folks who want to discuss questions of faith, then come on down!

Only twelve sessions, beginning this Tuesday, September 15, from 7:00-8:30pm. Deacon Tom and Patt Goeltz have materials for you to read in advance of each session, so contact Kathleen Bell to get yours. . .or just come on Tuesday. . .you're welcome!

Adult Confirmation

Are you over the age of 18 and missed out on celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation?

Your parish invites you to a simple program of preparation so that you can participate in Confirmation when the Bishop comes in May, 2010. (See Re-Discovering Catholicism, above)

If you would like to be included, please come on Tuesday, and bring the following to Kathleen Bell:

- ◆ Contact information
- ◆ Copy of Baptism and First Communion Certificates

If you have any questions or concerns, please be in touch.

Stewardship & Development

Serve God's People

Chris Smith
 Director of Stewardship & Development
 chriss@stmoside.org; 758-4100 x120

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP *Shaped for Serving God*

St. James has harsh words today, in the second reading, for those who do not put their faith into action. May we be such good stewards of God's gifts to us that we can never be accused of having "faith that does nothing in practice."

Rick Warren, author of *The Purpose Driven Life*, is very much in tune with the many biblical references to our Christian Stewardship. He points that God gives every believer spiritual gifts to be used in ministry.

You can't earn your spiritual gifts or deserve them—that is why they are called gifts! They are an expression of God's grace to you. "Christ has generously divided out His gifts to us."

Because God loves variety and wants us to be special, no single gift is given to everyone. Also, no individual receives all the gifts. If you had them all, you'd have no need of anyone else, and that would defeat one of God's purposes—to teach us to love and depend on each other.

Your spiritual gifts were not given for you own benefit but for the benefit of others, just as other people were given gifts for your benefit. The Bible says, "A spiritual gift is given to each of us as a means of helping the entire church."

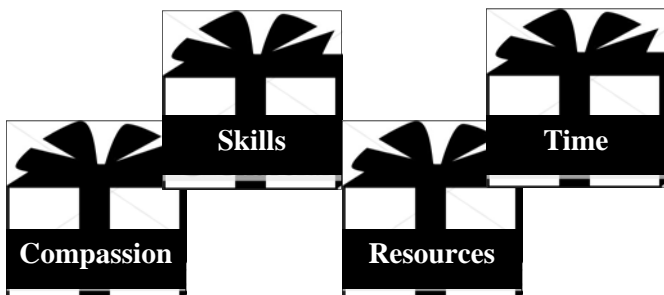
God planned it this way so we would need each other. When we use our gifts together, we all benefit. If others don't use their gifts, you get cheated, and if you don't use your gifts, they get cheated. This is why we are commanded to discover and develop our spiritual gifts. *Remember that an unopened gift is worthless.*

Whenever we forget these basic truths about gifts, it always causes trouble in the Church. Two common problems are "gift envy" and "gift-projection." The first occurs when we compare our gifts with others', feel dissatisfied with what God gave us, and become resentful or jealous of how God uses others.

The second problem happens when we expect everyone else to have our gifts, do what we are called to do, and feel as passionate about it as we do. The Bible says, "There are different kinds of service in the church, but it is the same Lord we serve."

Our heart is the best gauge to determine the use of gifts bestowed on us. The heart bundles up our desires, hopes, dreams, interests, ambitions and affections. This is the source of our motivation—what we love to do and what we care about most.

As a face is reflected in water, so the heart reflects the person.



How is your heart encouraging you to use your gifts?

A WAY TO GIVE ~ A WAY TO RECEIVE



DESIGNATED BANK ACCOUNTS, WILLS, LIVING TRUSTS, STOCKS, LIFE INSURANCE, MUTUAL FUNDS, REAL ESTATE, ENDOWMENTS

There have been changes in the laws that are beneficial to both the recipient and the giver. A few examples of Planned Giving to STM are: Designated Beneficiary Accounts, Wills, Living Trusts, Stocks, Life Insurance, Mutual Funds, Real Estate, and Endowments.

This program is one way of helping the Parish raise the resources necessary to continue our campus build out and also help plan for our future needs (i.e., Tower of Faith participants). Planned Giving is a generic term that covers the many ways an individual can give to a charity while, in many cases, avoiding taxes.

For more information please contact:
 Chris Smith at 758-4100 x120 or chriss@stmoside.org.

"Our Journey Into The Future . . . Together"
 includes our Faith journey as well as the
 build out of our Parish Campus.

2009 Lango Baya Mission Project Collection \$1,484

Collection for Week of: Sept. 5/6, 2009

Number of Registered Households:		1,002
Offertory*	\$	14,859.66
Offertory (Loose Collection)		1,131.50
Children's envelopes		1.55
Total	\$	15,992.71

* Offertory Envelopes, Credit Card Withdrawals, Automatic Checking or Savings Account Deductions (Credit Card and Automatic Bank Account Withdrawals are posted at STM on the 5th and/or 20th of each month.)

There are many ways to help support your Parish.

We offer a variety of options for easier giving. In addition to the extra "mail-back" envelopes included in your packet, we offer automatic:

- ◆ Credit Card Withdrawal (Visa, MC, or Discover)
- ◆ Automatic Checking/Savings Account Deduction

To participate in these time-saving alternatives, please contact the Parish Office at:
 760-758-4100 x100 or parishoffice@stmoside.org.

News from the Larger Church

St. Vincent de Paul Ladies Guild Coffee in San Diego—Monday, September 14, 10:00am at St. Bridgid. Learn about their annual events and work with the children of St. Vincent de Paul Village. For more information, contact Virginia Lamendola at 619-435-2108.

Divine Mercy Movement in San Diego—Saturday, September 19, 10:00am, Mass in St. Mary Magdalene Church, followed by free live presentation of “St. Faustina and Fr. Sopocko,” refreshments, bookstore, and reports on the Divine Mercy Congress in Washington, DC, and “Divine Mercy on the Niagara.” For more information, contact Joe & Carol at 619-276-6637 or www.SDdivinemersey.org.

North County Regional Young Adult Group Monthly Mass and Dinner in Vista—Sunday, September 20, at 5:00pm at St. Francis Church (525 W. Vista Way, Vista). You are invited to celebrate Mass, followed by dinner at Bara Bean (771 E. Vista Way, Vista). Look for the welcome signs at the entrance of the Church and plan to sit together for Mass! Come connect with other like-minded young adults from North County! We hope to see you there! For more information, contact Carrie Giebel at cgiebel@diocese-sdiego.org.

Catholic Weight Management Program in San Marcos—Tired of struggling with your weight? Want peace with food? Join the *Light Weigh*, a 12-week video Catholic bible study series where you will learn a new approach to eating and prayer, imitating the example of Jesus and the spirituality of His most devoted followers. Orientation on Monday, September 21, at 7:00pm at St. Mark Parish in San Marcos. What have you got to lose?

Carmelite Silent Retreat for Women in Alhambra—Friday, September 25-Sunday, September 27. Please consider taking this brief but blessed time out of your routine to refresh your heart and soul in a beautiful rose garden setting at the Sacred Heart Retreat House in Alhambra, sponsored by the Carmelite Sisters of the Sacred Heart. For more information, call Jan Felner of St. Elizabeth Seton Women’s Auxiliary at 760-603-9103.

San Diego Catholic Worker Annual Dinner and Silent Auction in San Diego—Saturday, September 26, 6:00-10:00pm, St. Mary Magdalene Church Hall, 1945 Illion St., San Diego. Donation: \$20. For more information, contact Tina Di Stefano at 858-552-0817.

Octoberfest at Braille Institute in San Diego—Celebrating their new community awareness program on Friday, October 2, 11:30am-1:30pm, 4555 Executive Drive, San Diego. Food, entertainment, and fun! For more information, contact Ann Eriksson at 760-599-7151.

Day of Reflection Sponsored by Friends and Co-Workers of Blessed Mother Teresa in Encinitas—Saturday, October 3, 9:00am-3:00pm, at St. John Catholic Church, 1001 Encinitas Blvd., Encinitas. Talks, meditation, confessions, and Mass. For more information, contact Moira at 760-944-9516.

Brother Benno’s Annual Fashion Show and Luncheon in Oceanside—Saturday, October 3, 11:00am-2:00pm at the NCO Club, Camp Pendleton. Delicious lunch, door prizes, opportunity baskets, and great fashion show. Proceeds will benefit the two women’s shelters for homeless women and children and women

in recovery. Tickets are \$45 each or \$360 for a table of eight. For more information and reservations, call Vickie Squires at 760-724-7371.

Annual Senior Citizen’s Day Expo in Oceanside—Saturday, October 3, 10:00am-2:00pm, El Corazon Senior Center, 3302 Senior Center Dr., Oceanside. Features information booths, great food, and wonderful entertainment.

Open House at Girls’ Catholic High School in San Diego—Saturday, October 10, 9:00-11:30am at the Academy of Our Lady of Peace, 4860 Oregon St., San Diego. For more information, visit www.aolp.org or call 619-725-9118.

Annual Christmas Boutique in Escondido—November 21, 4:00-7:00pm and November 22, 8:00am-1:00pm, Church of St. Timothy, 2960 Canyon Rd., Escondido. Will include Catholic Charities “Tomorrow Project” soups and dips, “Prayers & Squares” Quilt Ministry and Raffle, Knights of Columbus. Vendors welcome—6x6 table space \$25 (reserve by November 6). For more information, contact Linda at 760-743-1500 or lsteiner453@yahoo.com.

Catholic Elementary Schools in the Area

Old Mission Montessori School/Mission San Luis Rey, Oceanside
760-757-3232/www.omms.org

St. Francis of Assisi School, Vista
760-630-7960/www.sfs-vista.org

St. Joseph Academy, San Marcos
760-305-8505/www.stjosephacademy.org

St. Mary Star of the Sea School, Oceanside
760-722-7475/www.stmarystars.org

St. Patrick School, Carlsbad
760-729-1333/www.stpaddys.org

**For more schools, visit www.diocese-sdiego.org
and select Catholic Institutions, then Schools & Universities**

Pilgrimages in 2010

United Arab Emirates & Egypt

Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Cairo, Giza, Memphis, Aswan, and Luxor;
(includes a three-day cruise on the Nile)

January 4-15, 2010 • \$3,975 per person, double occupancy

Hosted by **Rev. Michael Ratajczak**

For detailed brochure and all information, contact:
michaelratajczak@hotmail.com or 619-368-9939

Imperial Splendors & Oberammergau

Munich, Germany; Prague, Czech Republic; Bratislava, Slovakia;
Budapest, Hungary; Vienna, Melk, and Salzburg, Austria;
Oberammergau, Germany

(the Passion Play is only performed every 10 years)

September 2-14, 2010 • \$2,966* per person, double occupancy

*Land tour cost; airfare to be determined in October 2009,
estimated to be about \$1,300.

Hosted by **Rev. Michael Ratajczak & Rev. Pedro Rivera**

For detailed brochure and all information, contact:

Fr. Mike: michaelratajczak@hotmail.com or 619-368-9939

Fr. Pedro: padrepedro@stjudesd.com or 619-264-2195



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 www.stmoside.org · parishoffice@stmoside.org
 Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30-12:00noon and 12:30-4:00pm

Parish Contacts

Updated 08/16/09

Council Chairs: Pastoral—Doug D’Agrosa 941-6800 • **Finance**—Paul Ibbetson 734-1051 • **Development**—Ron Briseno 726-4496

Pastoral Council Committees

Faith Formation & Evangelization **Rory Griffin 414-3939**
 Religious Education (Adults)..... Wayne Zych 598-9244
 Small Church Communities Sondra Parks 598-1269
 Little Rock Bible Studies Masako Streling 295-2594
 Religious Education (Children)..... Kathleen Bell 758-4100 x110
 Liturgy of the Word for Children..... Cathy Meyer 598-7853
 Sacramental Preparation..... Kathleen Bell 758-4100 x110
 Mid. School Youth Ministry Ron & Louise Briseno 758-4100 x153
 High School Youth Ministry..... Jeff & Gale Gibbons 726-7236
 Young Adult Ministry..... Joanna Mueller 726-5644
 Evangelization..... Available
 Vocations Deacon Tom & Patt Goeltz 758-4100 x130
 RCIA/Adults Mario Diaz 758-7870
 RCIA/Children..... Jeanette Marriott 434-1818

Liturgy **Kathy Arciero 231-1022**
 Altar Linen Care Marge Gillen 639-1929
 Bereavement Facilitator Sr. Maureen Brown 758-4100 x131
 Ecumenical & Interreligious Affairs Regina Aulizio 295-5530
 Environment & Art Kathy Quinn 722-7525
 Eucharistic Adoration Available
 Interior Design Team Pat & Phil Goscienski 732-1414
 Liturgical Ministries..... Douglas Lynn 758-4100 x140
 Liturgical Music..... Douglas Lynn 758-4100 x140

Marriage & Family Life Available
 Family Services..... Deacon Tom Goeltz 758-4100 x130
 Marriage Preparation..... Rev. Michael Ratajczak 758-4100 x100
 Deacon Tom Goeltz 758-4100 x130
 Parents & Tots..... Paul Mendiola 945-9042
 Widows & Widowers of North County..... Carol Kope 726-0533
 Jackie Cohen 726-4343

Parish Organizations & Events..... Available
 Golf Classic..... John Murphy 497-6117
 Historian..... Anne Marshall 727-2668
 Knights of Columbus James Baker 630-2471
 Library Chris James 598-5881
 Spirited Seniors..... Judy & Jerry Buoniconti 758-5113
 Vera Bayliss 739-9061
 Women’s Guild..... Valerie Thompson 630-1703

Social Ministries **Dick & Charlene Belprez 295-1431**
 Blood Drive Linda Dicus 726-5081
 Bereavement Follow-up Support Linda Dicus 726-5081
 Brother Benno’s..... Deacon Tom & Patt Goeltz 727-8442
 Christmas Angel Ministry John & Marti Harper 724-1181
 Faith Works Sr. Maureen Brown 758-4100 x131
 CPR/AED Classes..... Phil Goscienski 732-1414
 Disability Facilitation Ann Eriksson 599-7151
 Fraternity & Michaelle House..... Carmen Tamayo 591-3554
 Huggy Buddies Program..... Gale Gibbons 726-7236
 Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice
 Joyce Meehan 724-4974
 Interfaith Shelter Network Frank Coxon 599-8760
 Jail Ministry Rita McCarthy 758-4100 x100
 More’s Workers Dick Belprez 295-1431
 Prayer Request Line..... Pat Wong 806-1310
 Norma Flanagan 630-0180
 Project Linus..... Mary Coxon 599-8760
 Pro-Life Activities Jane Kelleher 822-7041
 Sick & Homebound (*Eucharist*) Jean McCloskey 643-2363
 Sister Parish Program..... Sr. Maureen Brown, 758-4100 x131
 Social Justice Sr. Maureen Brown, 758-4100 x131
 St. Bonaventure Mission..... Knights of Columbus 598-6003

Office Support..... **Henny Jocelyn 758-4100 x100**
 Chair Set-Up..... Lorraine Doering 758-4100 x102
 General Support..... Henny Jocelyn 758-4100 x100
 Kitchen Overseer DeAnne Gonzales 598-8748
 STM Host Program..... Henny Jocelyn 758-4100 x100

Development Council Committees

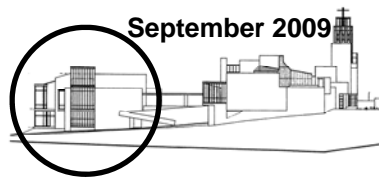
Annual Catholic Appeal..... Flora Fallone 758-4100 x100
 Capital Campaign Bill Ipsen 723-0402
 New Construction Brian Leahey 598-5697
 Parish Membership Louise Briseno 726-4496
 Planned Giving Chris Smith 758-4100 x120
 Publicity/Public Relations..... Anne Marshall 727-2668
 Sacrificial Giving/Tithing Paul Ibbetson 734-1051
 Scrip Sales Theresa Goeltz 453-2876
 Stewardship Chris Smith 758-4100 x120
 Vehicle Donations..... Henny Jocelyn 758-4100 x100

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor..... 758-4100 x100 michaelr@stmoside.org
 Deacon Tom Goeltz 758-4100 x130 or 727-8442 thomasg@stmoside.org
 Sr. Maureen Brown, Pastoral Associate 758-4100 x131 maureenb@stmoside.org
 Kathleen Bell, Director of Faith Formation 758-4100 x110 kathleenb@stmoside.org
 Gale & Jeff Gibbons, High School Youth Ministers 758-4100 x150 jeffg@stmoside.org, galeg@stmoside.org
 Ron & Louise Briseno, Middle School Youth Ministers 758-4100 x153 ronb@stmoside.org, louiseb@stmoside.org
 Stacey Griffin, Faith Formation Office Assistant 758-4100 x110 staceyg@stmoside.org
 Douglas Lynn, Director of Music/Coordinator of Liturgical Ministries..... 758-4100 x140 douglasl@stmoside.org
 Kathy Santy, Assistant Music Director 758-4100 x100 kathys@stmoside.org
 Chris Smith, Director of Stewardship & Development 758-4100 x120 chriss@stmoside.org
 Joe Garcia, Director of Maintenance 758-4100 x151 joeg@stmoside.org
 Henny Jocelyn, Receptionist/Secretary..... 758-4100 x100 hennyj@stmoside.org
 Natalie Provinse, Bookkeeper 758-4100 x104 nataliep@stmoside.org
 Lorraine Doering, Parish Office Technician 758-4100 x102 lorrained@stmoside.org

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“Did You Know?”
Your monthly opportunity to help with
the Operating Budget.
We must be able to maintain
what we have in order to
“Journey Into The Future . . . Together”
and build our church.

Please make checks payable to:
Church of St. Thomas More
with memo “Operating Budget.”

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Envelopes may be returned any time during the month via
the weekend collection, the Parish Office, or the mail.

Parish ID#: _____

Amount Enclosed: **\$** _____

Knights of Columbus

BREAKFAST

Sunday Sep 20, 2009 At STM

9AM till 1030 AM

Pancakes

Eggs

Sausage

Hash browns

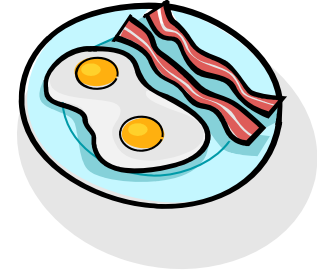
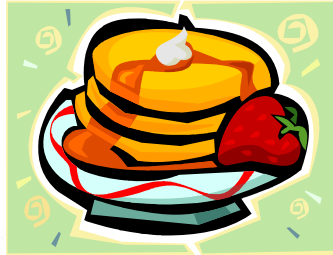
Fresh Strawberries

Coffee/Juice

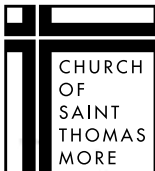
And lots of Friendly People

Come Dine with us : Adults \$6.00, Child \$4.00 (age 5&under Free)

Families with 2 or more children \$15.00 Max



Reservations (6 or more) 760 732 0543



Join us for the first San Diego County



40 DAYS FOR LIFE™

Pray to end abortion

September 23 — November 1

- ❖ 40 days of prayer and fasting to end abortion
- ❖ 40 days of continuous prayer vigil
- ❖ 40 days of educational outreach in the community

Prayer vigils to be held outside Dr. Kung's abortion clinic at the

Palomar Pomerado Health Building

**Corner of Twin Oaks Valley & Craven Roads
120 Craven Road, San Marcos**

"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

- 2 Chronicles 7:14

Learn more at www.40daysforlife.com/sanmarcos

To sign up for specific vigil hours, or to let us know how you feel called to serve God in this effort, please contact the local *40 Days for Life* leadership team:

sanmarcos40daysforlife@gmail.com or 760.438.2860